



HELFER & BAKER

NO.12 • JUL'88 • \$1.75/\$2.50 CAN • SUGGESTED FOR MATURE READERS

The image shows the front cover of a comic book titled "THE SHADOW". The title is written in large, stylized letters that appear to be made of a textured, metallic or stone-like material, possibly sandstone, with visible grain and texture. The letters are white with black outlines. The background of the cover features a dark, swirling, and smoky texture, suggesting a mysterious and atmospheric setting. In the top left corner, there is a small circular emblem containing a star and some other symbols. The top right corner contains text about the issue number, price, and rating.

SEVEN DEADLY FINNS • Part 5



WITH JOHNNY DC

Roger Sten debuts as a DC writer this month as he launches the SUPERMAN feature spread in ACTION COMICS WEEKLY #601. Joining Roger will be veteran Superman artist Curt Swan, returning to his best-known feature after fans caught a glimpse of EARTH STEALERS. Rounding out the team will be John Beatty, who also inks the odd-numbered issues of SUPERMAN, now that the series will be presented semi-monthly. John Byrne himself will write, pencil and ink the even-numbered issues . . . Roger will make his presence truly felt next month when he takes on the task of enlarging Ray Palmer's super-hero career. POWER OF THE ATOM will get a headstart with a recap of The Atom's dynamic debut, courtesy of SECRET ORIGINS #29. A week later, POWER #1 bursts on the scene . . .

Curt Swan will also be found in next month's STAR TREK ANNUAL #3 and is currently working on an AQUAMAN mini-series, along with writers Keith Giffen and Robert Loren Fleming and inker Al Vey . . .

Dwayne Turner is one of our latest artistic discoveries and will draw the Atom's all-new adventures, with inks by our own Assistant Art Director, K.S. Wilson, who some may know from his work on *The Elementals* . . . Two months later, Roger will be back with still another breathtaking new series, this time presenting a brand-new super-hero with a familiar name—but he's unlike any hero we've introduced in a long, long time. This time around, Roger finds himself working with Tom Lyle making his DC debut as penciller, and CAPTAIN ATOM inker Bob Smith, so he is in 'steller' hands . . .

Michael Fleisher has been generating a lot of activity lately. He has been making more frequent appearances in the DC offices, usually found near Andy Helfer's smoky doorway. Together with Vince Gerrano, still another new pencilling discovery, they have been brainstorming a new series. This one is set to premiere in the summer, so watch out . . .

Marty Pasko is back and DC has him! Marty took some time off from comics a while back to pursue his writing career in the land of animated series and prime-time television. Once bitten by the comics bug, however, it's hard to shake free, so Marty has returned with an armload of new ideas. His first assignment is a revival of the Mockingbird mystery in THE NEW SECRET SIX feature for ACTION COMICS WEEKLY. From there, he journeys to the stars for a brief tour aboard the starship Enterprise in STAR TREK #56 and then visits Gotham City's darkest streets for a BATMAN thriller . . .

OUTER HEAT is the name of DC's latest movie adaptation, coming this July. The 20th Century-Fox film top liners James Caan, Mandy Patinkin and Terrence (*Superman the Movie*) Stamp and deals with aliens living on Earth. It's actually a cops and robbers film with the patented James (*Aliens*) Cameron twist—which makes sense, since Cameron co-wrote the screenplay with Rockne S. O'Bannon. Adapting the film into comic form is O'Bannon's buddy Marty Pasko and our old friend Jerry Bingham, marking Jerry's first storytelling since the acclaimed SON OF THE DEMON . . .

Mike Gold and Denny O'Neil have been meeting constantly to plan out the GREEN ARROW—QUESTION crossover coming up in QUESTION #18. Of course, this is merely a prelude to this summer's triple crossover between DETECTIVE COMICS ANNUAL #1, GREEN ARROW ANNUAL #1 and THE QUESTION ANNUAL #1. If you think things are rotten in Hub City, imagine a crisis that links Hub City, Seattle and Gotham! Joining in on the fun will be the return of Lady Shiva, after much reader demand. Mike's biggest problem was finding the talent to draw these tales, but he has succeeded in rounding up Klaus Janson for DETECTIVE, Tom Artis and Timothy O'Donnell for GREEN ARROW and his regular team of Denys Cowan and Rick Magyar for QUESTION . . . Rounding out the triple event will be a nifty retail poster with the three lead characters, drawn by Denys and Bill Sienkiewicz . . .

Mike Mignola has relocated from San Francisco to the wilds of Brooklyn, finding an apartment smack in between Editor Mike Carlin and Proofreader Liz Flynn . . . the former Mike has agreed to pencil a four-part Prestige Format mini-series, edited by the latter Mike. Written by Jim Starlin and inked by Carlos Garzon, the story will feature loads of major DC heroes and one very nasty villain . . .

Speaking of nasty villains, keep an eye out for events in NEW TEEN TITANS that will shake things up for the cast of characters as Vicki Granf and Chris King, formerly of OIAL H FOR HERO, join the ensemble, courtesy of Marv Wolfman and Eduardo Barreto . . . Eduardo, by the way, takes a TITANS break to draw a chapter of GREEN ARROW #7, giving Ed Hannigan a chance to rest . . .

More . . . next month!

—Johnny DC

DC LIST

THIS WEEK

ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN 442

The Man of Steel vs. Oredaught, who seems to have Superman's missing powers. Guest starring the JLI! ●

BATMAN: THE KILLING JOKE

The maddest Joker ever as he takes his struggle against Batman to new lows when he kidnaps Commissioner Gordon. By Alan Moore and Brian Bolland. ★►

DOMINION PATROL 10

Metallo is after spare parts from Robotman. He's trashed the DP to get his way, but then . . . Superman arrives. ●

FLASH GORDON 2

Flash is trapped in the dreaded Pits of Ooom and discovers the truth about the sordid plans of Ming the Merciless. ■►

NEW TEEN TITANS 45

Oial "O" for Death when Vicki becomes a series of super-villains bent on killing Chris King. Can the Titans save them in time? ◆►

THE SHADOW 12

Meet Ma Finn, a very deadly woman, deadly enough to successfully kill one of the Shadow's agents. ◆▲►

SILVERBLADE 11

The friends of Jonathan Lord scour Hollywood to find the one star who can resurrect the Silverblade and save the world. ■►

SWAMP THING 74

What is it about Abby that stands in the way of the birth of the new Swamp Thing? ■►▲

WORLD WAR 130

'Maddox's Revenge, Part Two' finds Warlord and Danny Maddox face to face with the fate of Skartaris hanging in the balance. ●

THE WEIRD 4

Superman and Nuklon are possessed as they face off against the JLI and The Weird for a showdown. ●

WHO'S WHO IN THE LEGION 3

Planets, stars and alien races are the focus of this exhaustive look at the 30th century. ●

WRATH OF THE SPECTRE 3

The Michael Fleisher and Jim Aparo reprints conclude, setting the stage for next month's all-new conclusion. ◆►

YOUNG ALL-STARS ANNUAL 1

The entire All-Star Squadron fight Mekanique but that's not enough, so this concludes in next week's Infinity Annual. Plus the Private Life of Ozymandias. ■►

LEGEND

- Standard Format
- New Format
- ◆ Deluxe Format
- Available at Select Outlets
- ★ Prestige Format
- Graphic Novel
- Collected Edition
- ▲ Suggested for Mature Readers



SEEMS TIME
ALL THEY DO IS
SIT AROUND AND
STARE AT THE
FREIGHT CARS.
I MEAN, I KNOW
THEY'RE ALL
CRAZY--

-- PHYSIOTHERAPY
OPTIMISER --

--'YEAH, YEAH
--WHATEVER--
BUT THEY JUST
AIN'T GOT NO
SET-UP-AN'
GO--

IT HAS TAKEN
ME A LONG TIME
TO CONDITION THEM
A WEEK FOR THEM
TO TRULY BELIEVE
I AM THEIR
LORD AND
MASTER.

**IF THEY SUCCEED
WITH THE PLAN,
WE WILL CIRCLE
THE SHADOW AND
IF THEY ARE
CAPTURED—**

—THE POLICE
WILL HUNT
THE SHADOW DOWN
LIKE THE
INVISI-EL DOG
HE TRULY
IS!



WE BELIEVED THE SHADOW OUTSIDED HIS WALKED BOX IS HAND—AND NOW THEY ARE DO-

I still
dream
about this.
Must have.

I ANTICIPATED AS MUCH, ARTICLE THAT IS WHY WE ARE HERE. IT IS TIME FOR A DEMONSTRATION

HAND IN
THE ANSWERS
PLEASE

卷八

AND FLIP THAT SWITCH
TO YOUR LEFT. IT CONTROLS
THE SMOKE MACHINE
AND PA. SYSTEM.



NOW
EXCUSE ME
FOR A MOMENT--
AND WATCH
CAREFULLY.



COME,
MY AGENTS OF
DESTRUCTION...
IT IS TIME TO
WORK.

YOU KNOW
WHAT MUST
BE DONE...

RED--

--UH...
I MEAN...

--SHADOW.

THE SHADOW

THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS. PART 5

DARK SHADOWS

ANDREW HELFER
WRITER

KYLE BAKER
ARTIST

A PARABLE FOR THE AGES BY
BOB LAPPAN LETTERER

TOM ZIUKO COLORIST
RENEE WITTERSTAETTER ASSISTANT EDITOR

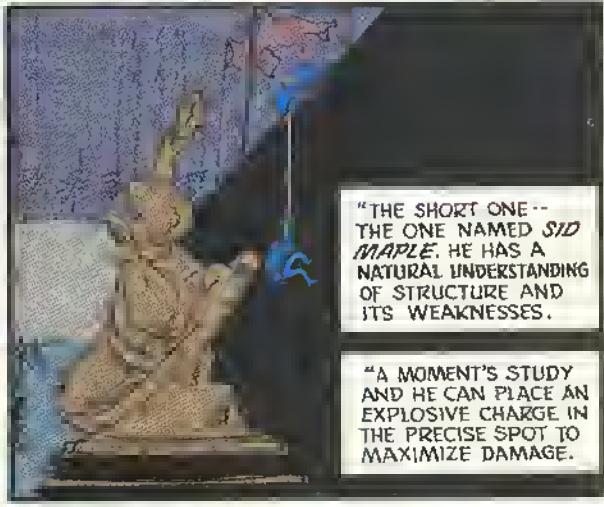
MIKE CARLIN
EDITOR

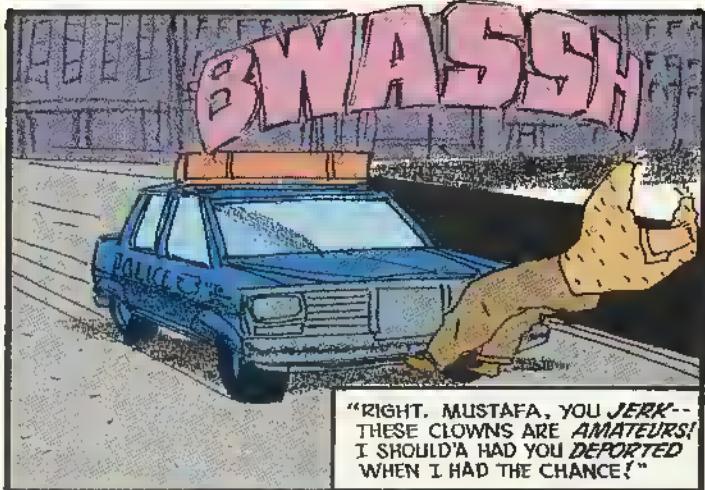
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"RIGHT, MUSTAFA, YOU JERK-- THESE CLOWNS ARE AMATEURS! I SHOULD'A HAD YOU DEPORTED WHEN I HAD THE CHANCE!"



"YOU ONLY SAY THAT BECAUSE YOU DO NOT KNOW THEM AS I DO, ARTIMUS. YOU SEE, LELAND KEMPER ALREADY BELIEVES HIMSELF TO BE DEAD."



"THE HUMAN MIND IS AN AMAZING THING, IS IT NOT?"

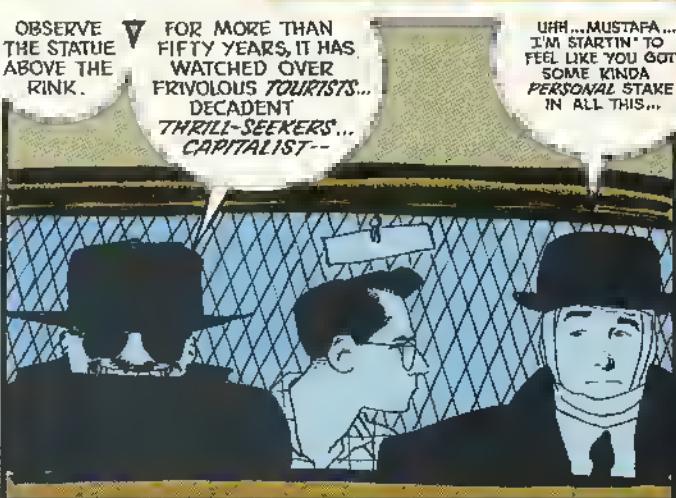
"--"

"WHAT IS IT, ARTIMUS--HAS THE MONGOOSE CAUGHT YOUR TONGUE?"

WHAA?

NEVER MIND. I SEE THE DEMONSTRATION IS ABOUT TO RUN ITS COURSE.

ALL THAT REMAINS IS THE CONCLUSION.



OBSERVE THE STATUE ABOVE THE RINK.

V FOR MORE THAN FIFTY YEARS, IT HAS WATCHED OVER FRIVOLOUS TOURISTS... DECADENT THRILL-SEEKERS... CAPITALIST--

UHH...MUSTAFA... I'M STARTIN' TO FEEL LIKE YOU GOT SOME KINDA PERSONAL STAKE IN ALL THIS...



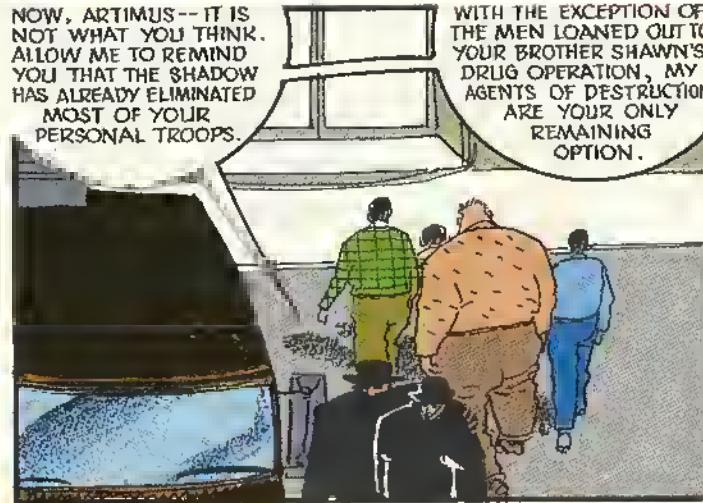
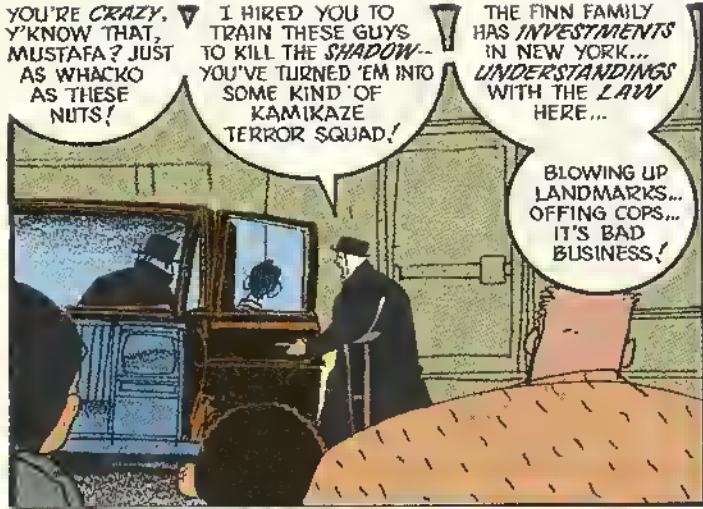
"NONSENSE, ARTIMUS. I AM A MERCENARY. I DO THE JOBS I AM PAID TO DO."

"THERE IS NO CRIME IN HAVING SOME ENTHUSIASM FOR ONE'S WORK."



AHH...THE PRODIGAL SONS RETURN TO THE ROOST...

I DON'T BELIEVE THIS... YOU KILLED THEM... FIRST THE COPS... THEN SOME STUPID TOURISTS... FOR A DEMONSTRATION.



IT HAS BEEN
A LONG STUDY
A LIFETIME
STUDY.



SINCE I
VAS A BOY.
VERY LITTLE.
I REMEMBER
VEN IT BEGAN.
I CUT MY FINGER
HERE.
ON ZE TIP.

MOTHER
WOULD BE UPSET--
SHE WOULD TELL ME
NOT TO PLAY MIT
DER RUSTY NAILS.
HIT ME, MAYBE.

AS ZE
INFECTION
GREW,
I BECAME
EVER MORE
FASCINATED

EACH DAY BROUGHT
NEW SURPRISES. A
GREEN OOZE ONE
DAY... A BRIGHT
PINK PUSTULE
ZE NEXT.

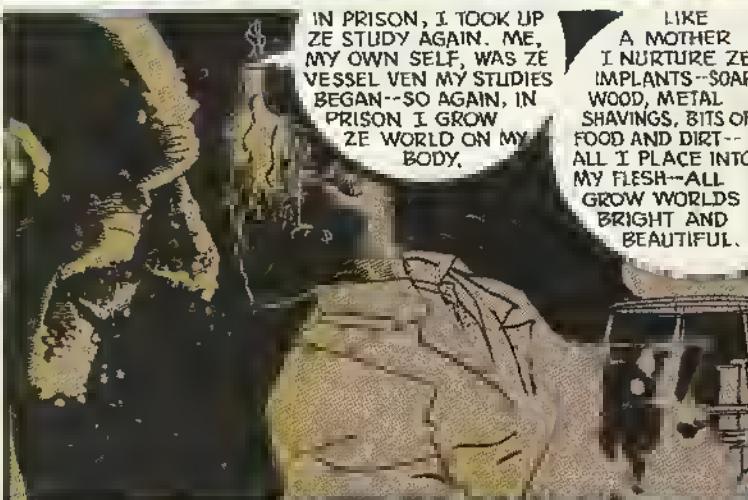
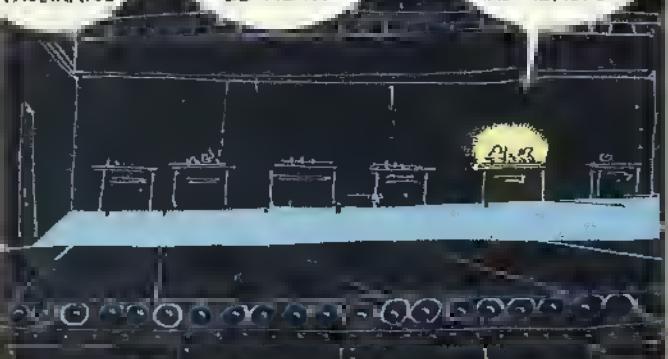
ZEN ONE DAY--
ZE COLORS LEFT.
ZE WORLD ON MY
FINGERTIP SUDDENLY
DIED. ZE WOUND
HAD HEALED.

OBZESSED, I BEGAN
MY STUDY OF THE
MICROCOSM--WHICH
TOOK ME FROM
PRAGUE IN MY YOUTH
TO ZE REINHARDT
INSTITUTE HERE
IN ZIS VERY
CITY.

SO I SAID
NOTHING. I
HID MY HAND
LIKE
IT CARRIED
ZE MARK OF
CAIN.

SOME DAYS LATER,
I NOTICED ZE COLORS.
AHH, ZE COLORS--
LIKE NUZZING I HAD
EVER ZEEN
BEFORE.

A WORLD
I THOUGHT
GROWING
ON MY
FINGERTIP.



HMMMPH?

I KOFF
SEEM TO HAVE,
UH... DOZED OFF.
THERE, DOCTOR...
YOU WERE... UH...
SAYING--?



ACHHH... IT IS
JUST AS VELL YOU
ZLEEP THROUGH
ZE RAVINGS OF
AN OLD MAN...

...BUT IT IS GOOD
YOU ARE AWAKE.
I HAFF NEED OF YOU
NOW, MY FAITHFUL
ASSISTANT.

NOW, YOU MUZT BE VERY CAREFUL WITH ZIS FORMULATION. IT CONTAINS TRACE AMOUNTS OF SAXOTOXIN. ZE DEADLIEST POISON KNOWN TO MAN. ZERE IS NO ANTIDOTE.

YOU MEAN, YOU DISTILLED A TON OF PLANKTON INTO THAT?

CERTAINLY! VAT DID YOU EXPECT? MY TRAINING IS, AFTER ALL, IN MOLECULAR BIOLOGY-- MIT DER EMPHASIS ON TOXINS!

WELL, I JUST THOUGHT YOU WERE, UH...WHIPPING UP SOME NEW SORT OF DRUG FOR SHAWN'S OPERATION-- YOU KNOW, LIKE ECSTASY OR SOMETHING...

WE MUST LEAVE HERE SOON--ZE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF OUR MISSION REMAINS BEFORE US.

NOW, ZEN. PREPARE ZE TEETH.

GOT THEM RIGHT HERE-- HOLLOWED-OUT PORCELAIN DENTURES AND BRIDGEWORK-- JUST LIKE YOU ASKED.

NO TEMPORARY HIGH CAN EVEN COMPARE

MIT DER ONE ZIS ONE AFFORDS. UND IF I HAD A REAL LAB, LIKE AT ZE REINHARDT INSTITUTE, I COULD RECREATE ZE MOST...ACHHH...I DIGRESS.

THERE. I AM READY NOW. LOAD ZE TEETH.

NOW--CAREFULLY-- EACH CAP IS EXTREMELY DELICATE. JUST ONE DROP IN EACH. NO MORE.

UND SEAL IT QUICKLY. ZE DISTILLATE RETURNS TO A GASEOUS STATE MILLISECONDS AFTER CONTACT MIT ZE AIR!

I THINK THAT'S IT-- EXCEPT FOR THIS ONE, SHOULD I FILL IT, TOO--?

JA, JA! UND PUT AN EXTRA DOSE IN ZAT VUN... I SAVE IT FOR LAST!

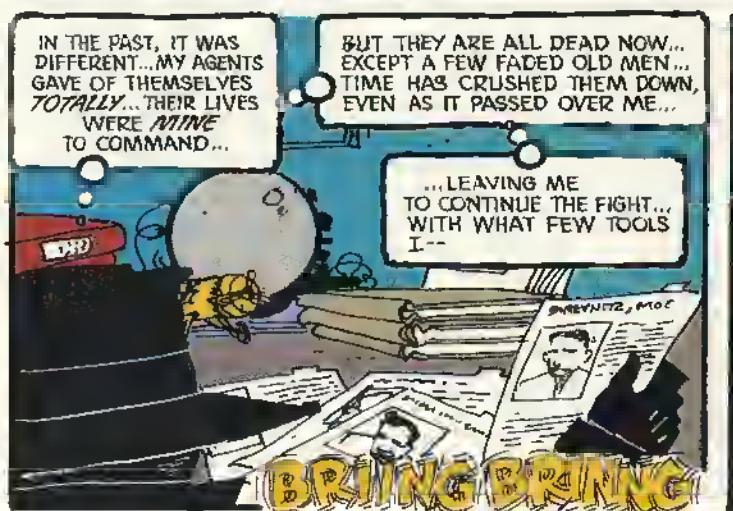
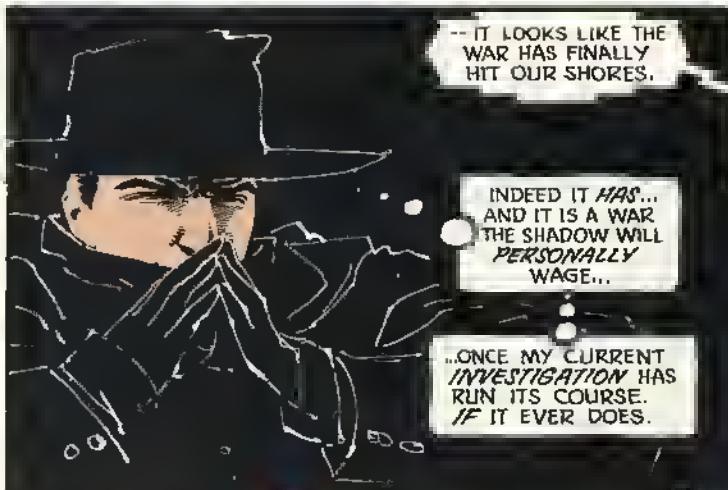
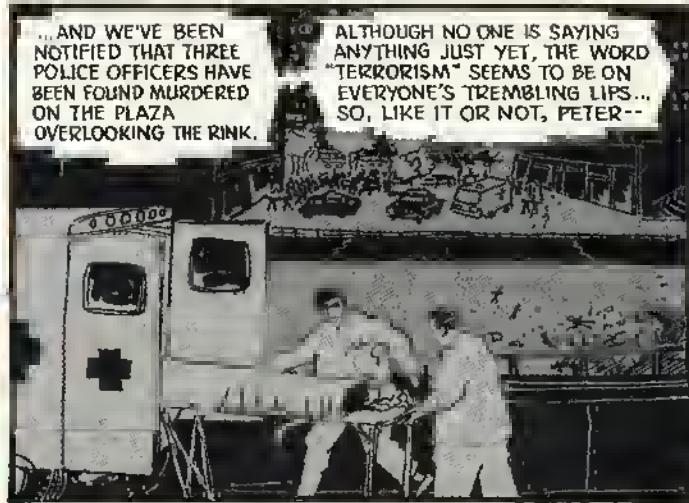
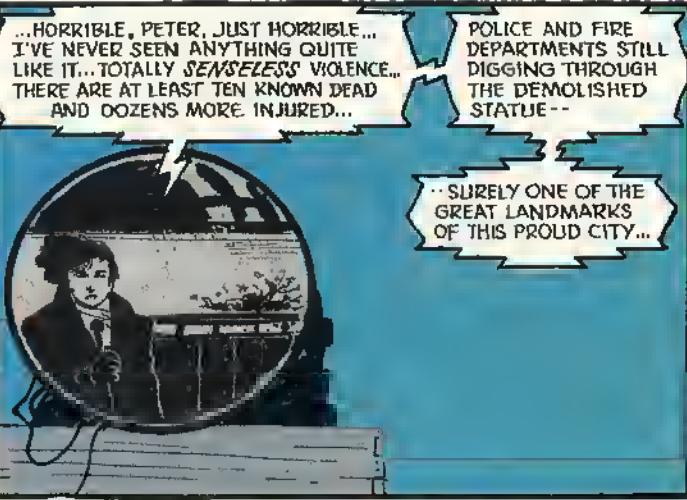
ACHHH! A PERFECT FIT! VUNDERBAR!

NOW COME ALONG, MISTER TWITCHIKOWITZ. VE HAFF PLACES TO GO--UND PEOPLE TO SEE...

YEAH-- IN A SECOND, DOC. GOTTA CALL MY... UH... WIFE.

JUST TO LET HER KNOW I WON'T BE HOME...

...FOR BREAKFAST.



~~Who's Who~~
Who's Who
great
in '88?



UPDATE 1988 · FOUR ISSUES STARTING IN APRIL



IN A BIZARRE TURN OF EVENTS, SELF-PROFESSSED WEEFIE-KING GALEN FINN IS IN PRISON TONIGHT, CHARGED WITH SECOND-DEGREE MURDER.

INITIALLY, FINN HAD BEEN ARRESTED FOR ATTEMPTING TO BYPASS AN INQUIRY INTO A RECENT PROMOTION BY BRIBING AN F.D.A. AGENT WITH A PARCEL OF DIAMOND-FILLED FRANKS.

BUT A CURSORY EXAMINATION OF THE FINE MEAT VATS YIELDED FRAGMENTS OF A PACEMAKER BELONGING TO MISSING SECURITY GUARD FRED GUMM.

GUMM WAS LAST SEEN GUARDING GALEN FINN'S BROTHER ERROL ON THE NIGHT OF THE YOUNGEST FINN'S MURDER IN A CITY HOSPITAL.

TONIGHT, POLICE ARE SIFTING THROUGH STILL OTHER HUMAN REMAINS FOUND IN THE VAT.

A BAIL HEARING HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL FINN HIRES A NEW ATTORNEY. THE FINN FAMILY HAS BEEN WITHOUT LEGAL COUNSEL SINCE THE MURDER OF LAWYER HY BACH LAST WEEK.



AN' TA THINK THAT I BEEN EATIN' THEM FRANKS OF HIS FOR YEARS...

I DON'T FEEL SO GOOD...

CHEER UP, KID. THINK HOW MISTER GUMM MUST FEEL.



WELL, Y'SEE, MASTER--I WUZ TRYIN' T'KEEP AN EYE ON HIM, BUT I KINDA GOT A LITTLE TOO CLOSE...

...HE KINDA MISTOOK ME FOR AN F.D.A. AGENT AND KINDA BRIBED ME WID A FISTFUL OF DIAMOND-FILLED FRANKS.

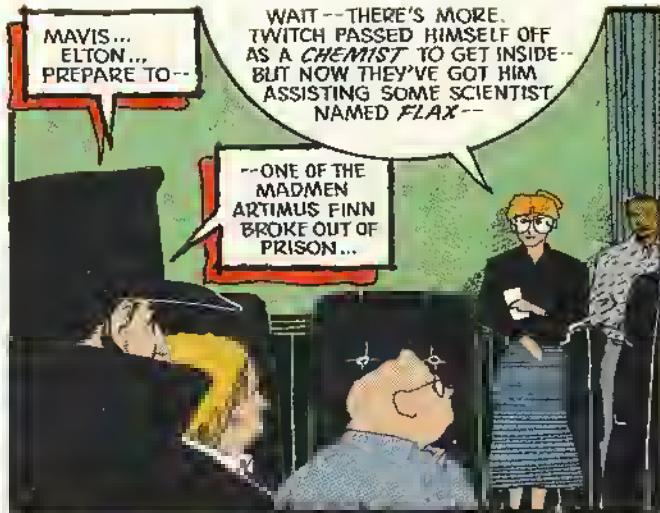
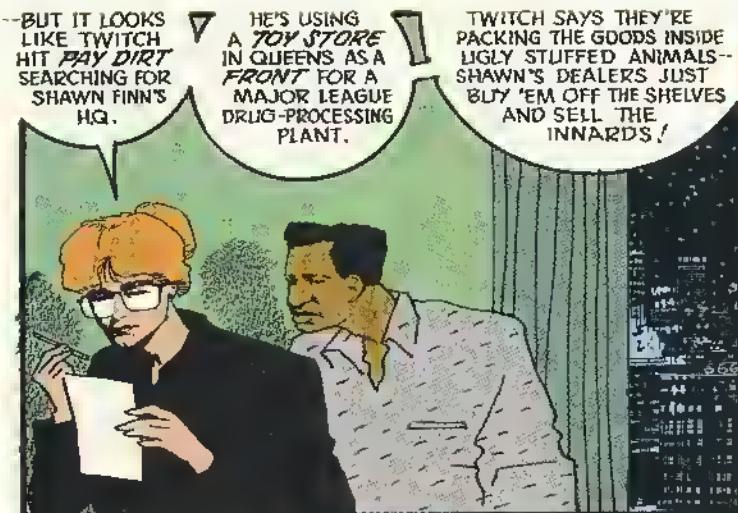
SO I FIGGERED SINCE MY COVER WAS BLOWN, I HADDA GET OUTTA DERE ASAP AND GO--



--OUT AND BUY YOURSELF A NEW WARDROBE. I SEE, DEWITT, YOUR HONESTY IS... REFRESHING.

BUT YOU STILL HAVE A JOB TO DO... AND A NEW DUTY TO PERFORM. DO I MAKE MYSELF CLEAR?





DC DOES IT AGAIN!

NOW IT'S THE ATOM'S TURN!

BY ROGER STERN
ART AND INKS BY DWAYNE TURNER

FREE POSTER
OFFER—SEE
INSIDE BACK
COVER FOR
DETAILS!

Following the success of DC's
revitalizations comes



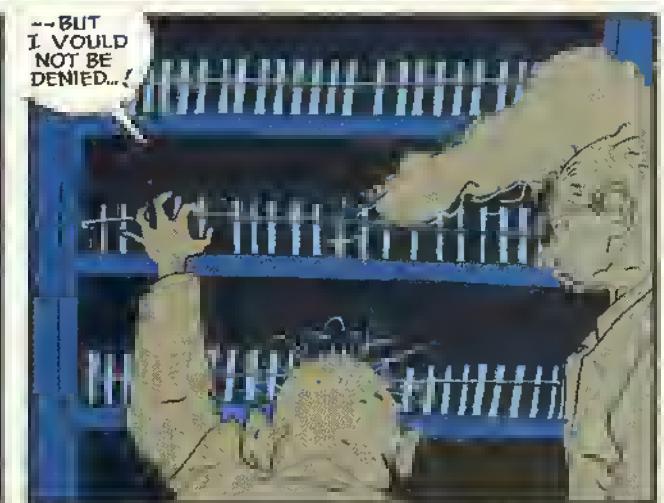
Writer: Roger Stern
Pencils: Dwayne Turner
Inks: K.S. Wilson

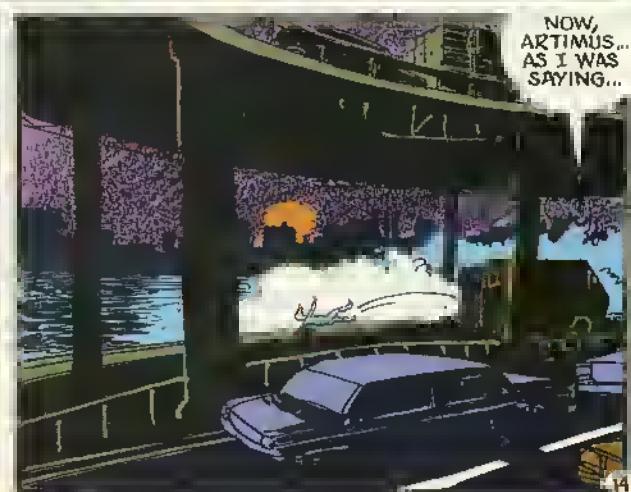
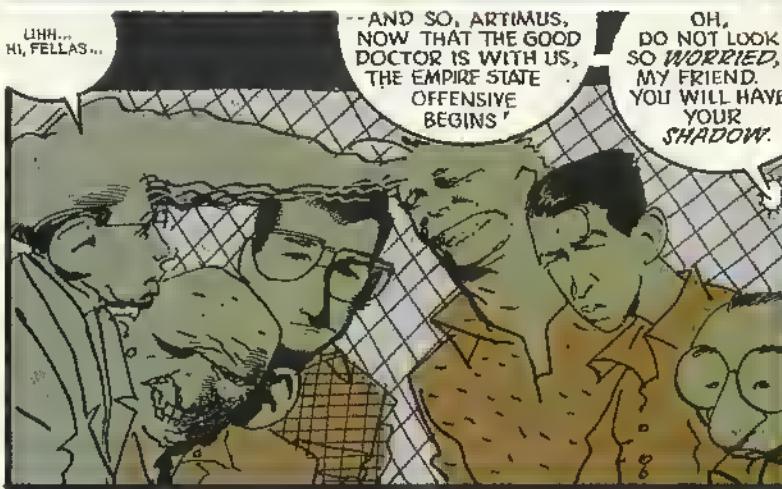
Appearing
monthly
starting April



DO NOT MISS HIS STORY IN SECRET ORIGINS #29! AVAILABLE IN APRIL.







IT AIN'T RIGHT.
IT JUST AIN'T
RIGHT!

I MEAN,
I MAY NOT BE
THE WORLD'S MOST
STAND-UP
KINDA GUY--

--BUT I AIN'T
NO
MURDERER,
NEITHER!!

SURE, I SET 'EM UP--
BUT HE ALWAYS
KNOCKS 'EM DOWN.
I'M A
SPECIALIST.

IF I WANTED TA
KILL FOR A LIVIN',
I'DA GONE INTA
PEST
CONTROL!

I JUST AIN'T GOT
THE HEART FOR THAT--
AND IT'S TIME I
LET THE MASTER
KNOW IT.

HELL
UNNERSTAN',
I BET. MAYBE
HE'LL GIVE ME A
NICE, LONG VACATION,
LIKE HE DID FER
HARRY AND
MARGO.

AWW...
WHO'M I
KIDDIN'?

I TRY TO
WELCH ON THIS.
MY FUTURE'S
AS GOOD AS ONE'A
GALEN FINN'S
WEENIES.

HE KNOWS
WHERE I LIVE...
AND
HE'LL FIND ME
ON THE
STREETS...

...BUT
THERE'S GOTTA BE
SOME WAY OUTTA THIS
SOME SAFE PLACE
HE CAN'T FIND ME
IF I SKIP THIS
ASSIGNMENT--

TOP O' THE
MORNIN',
ROBBIE.

SAME T'YOU,
SARGE -- GET
YOU SOMETHIN'
TO START IT OFF
RIGHT?

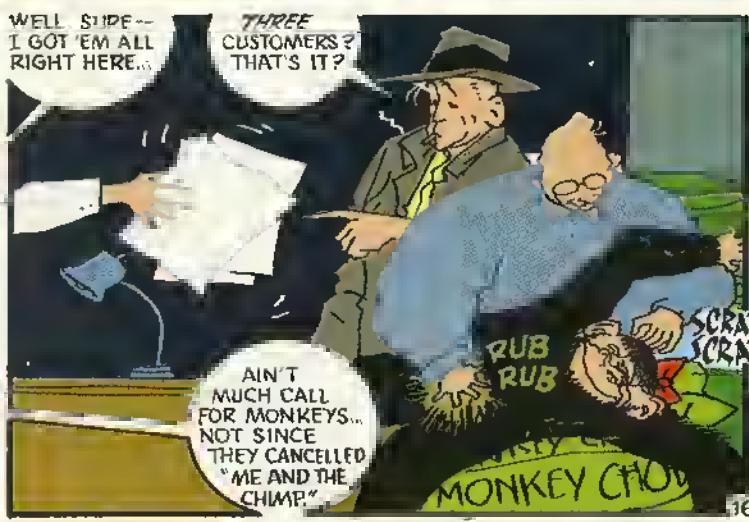
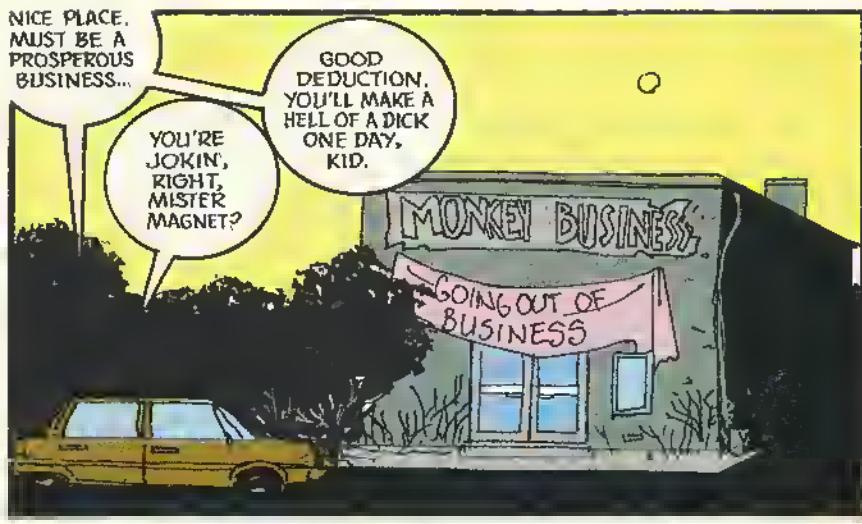
T'WOULD
BE
NICE--

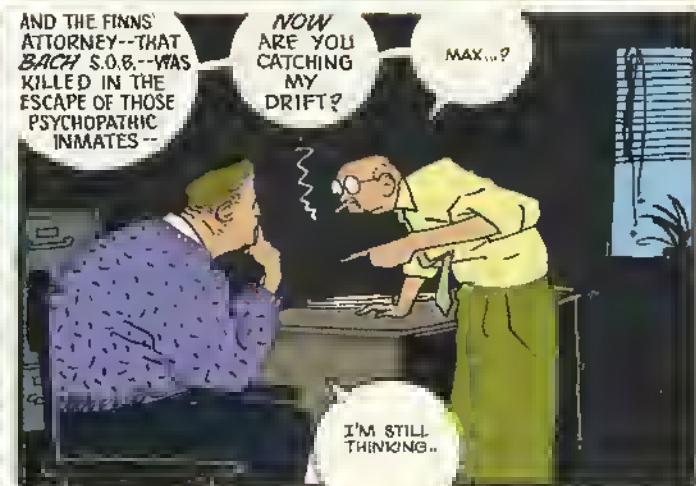
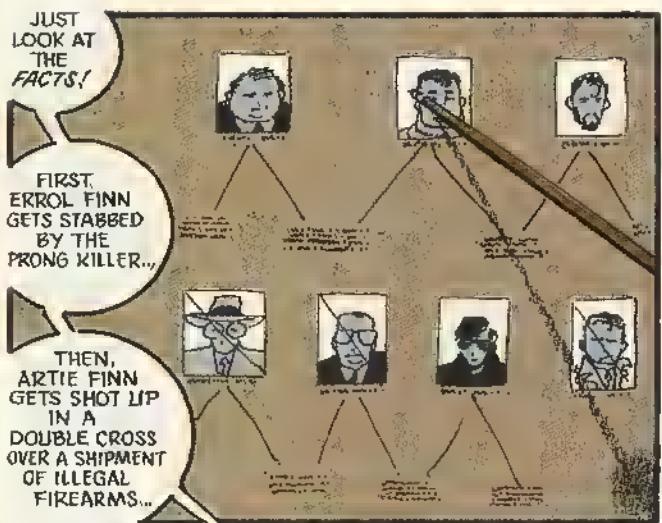


WELL,
DO YER DUTY
SARGE.

YER
DAMN RIGHT
I WILL,
FELLA--BUT
FIRST--







ACTION

COMICS WEEKLY

GALA PREMIERE APRIL 8

FEATURING:

GREEN LANTERN

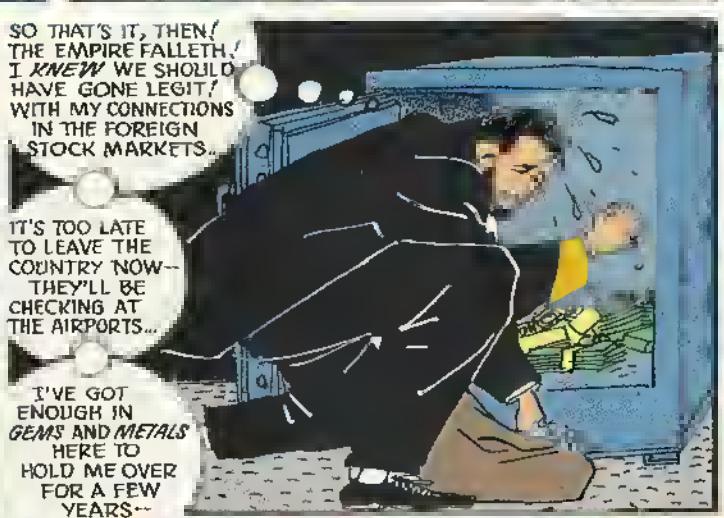
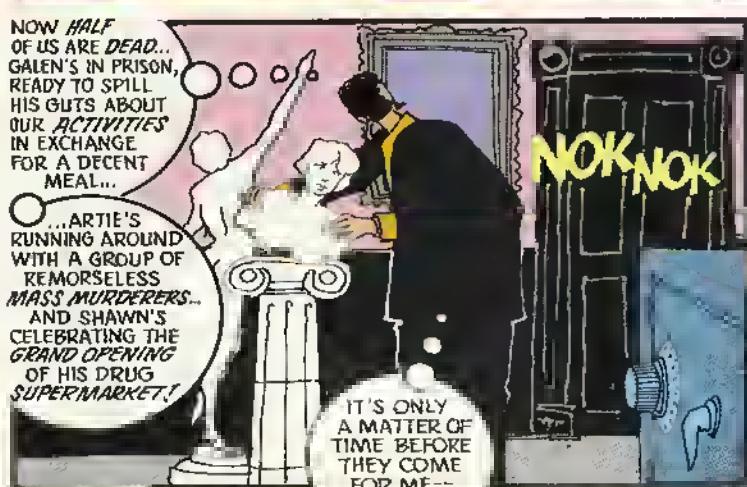
DEADMAN SECRET SIX

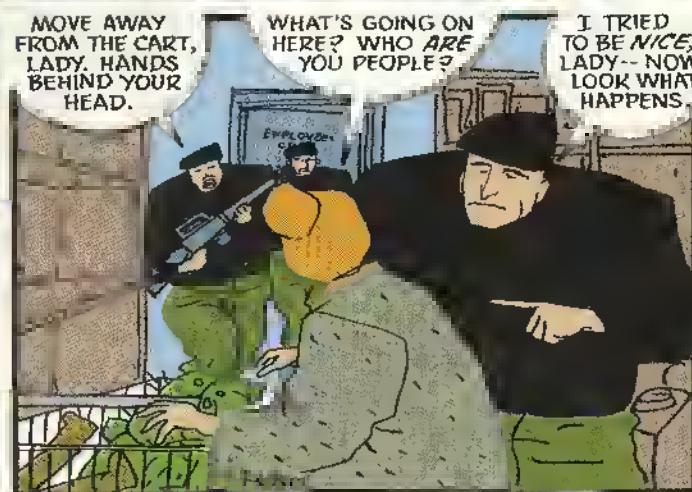
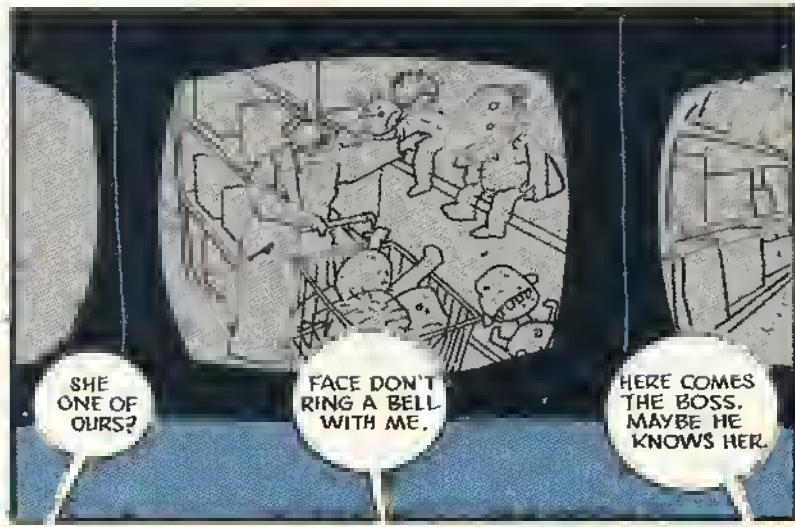
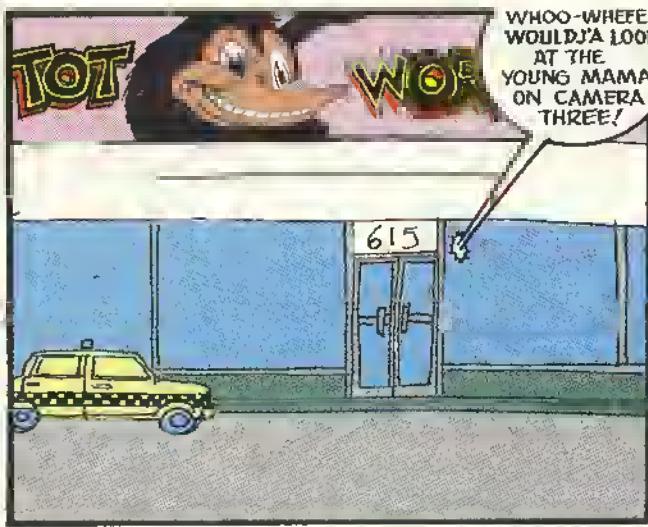
SUPERMAN WILD DOG

BLACKHAWK



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THE - WORLD - OF **METROPOLIS**

THE REST
OF THE
STORY



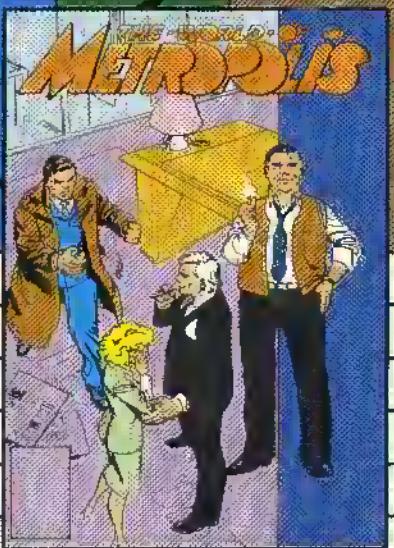
**Before the MAN OF STEEL,
there was THE WORLD OF METROPOLIS™**

John Byrne • Win Mortimer

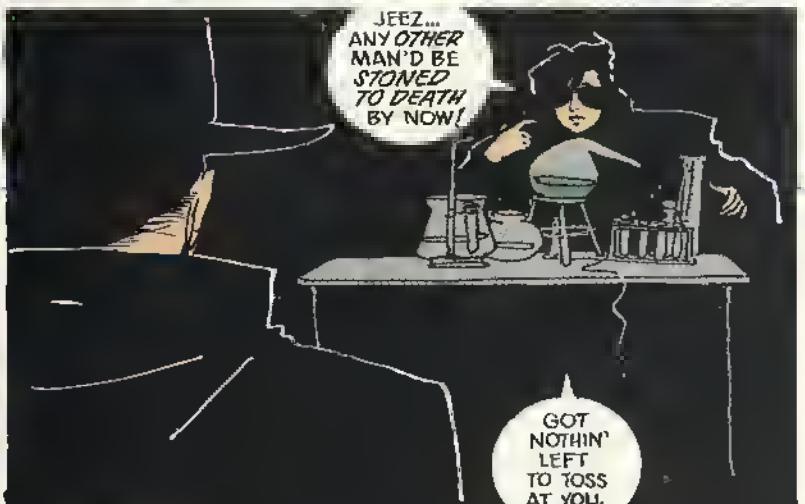
Dick Giordano • Frank McLaughlin

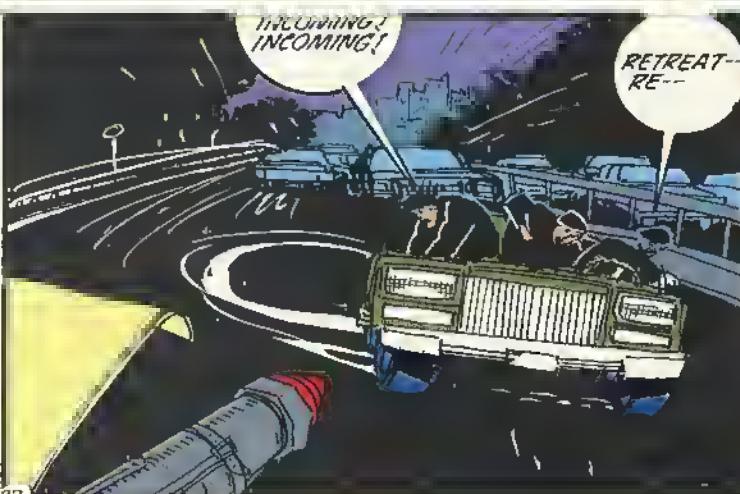
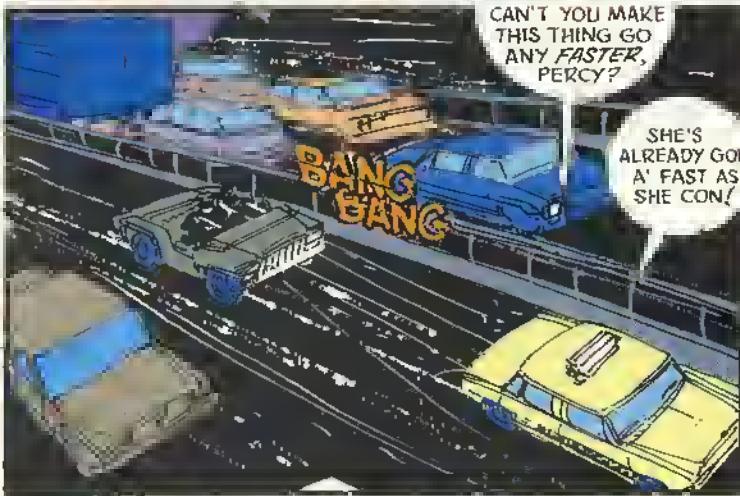
The third of 3 inter-locking 4 issue mini-series!

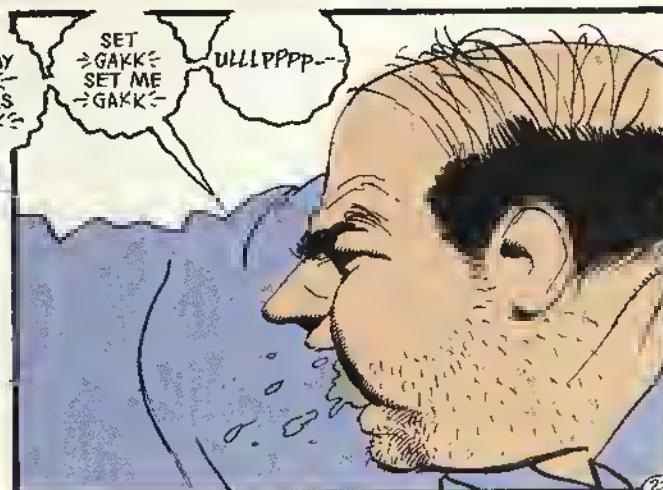
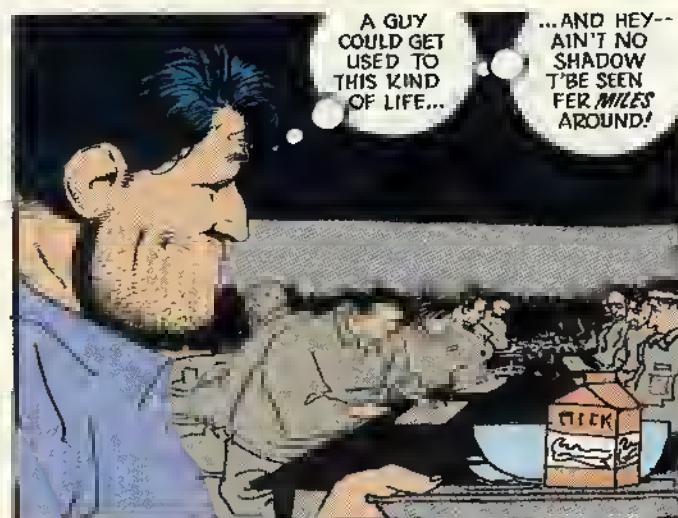
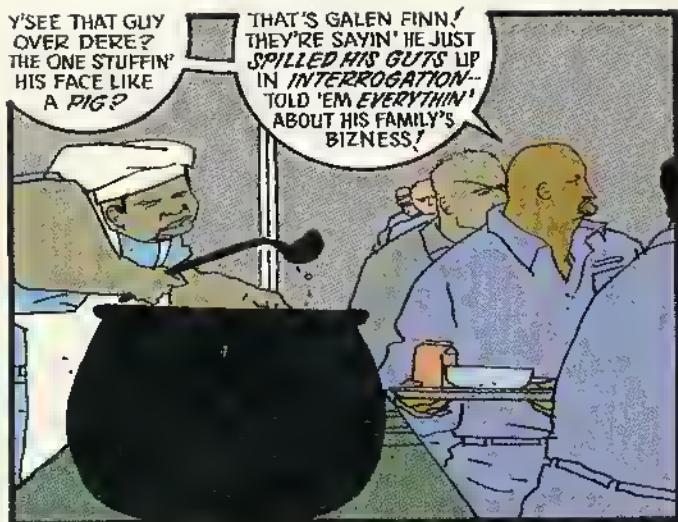
Coming in April

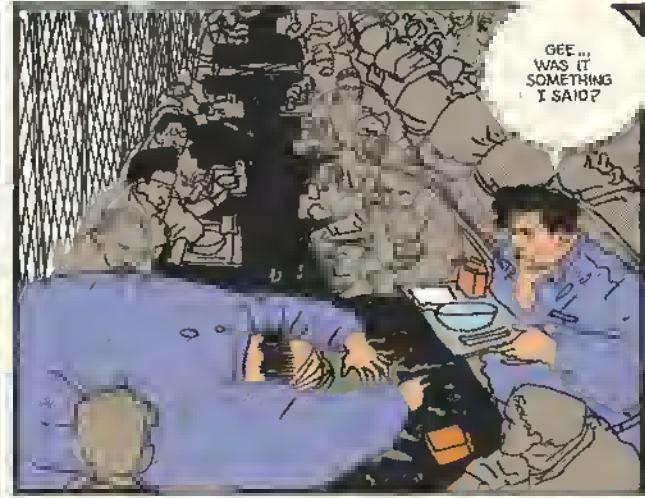
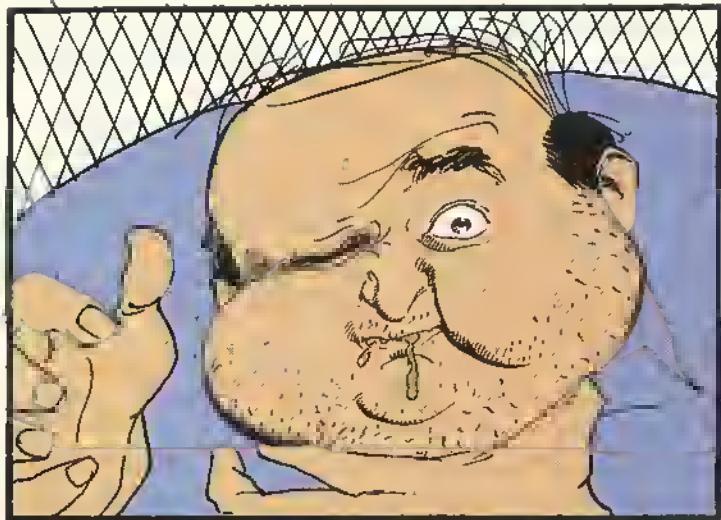


BUDDABUD









THIS IS THE
LAST OF 'EM.
IF IT DON'T
PAN OUT,
ELTON'S
HUNCH WAS
A BUST...

BUT IF
IT DOES
PAN OUT,
MISTER
MAGNET,
WE'LL BE--

HEY!
WHAT IF
IT DOES
PAN OUT?

NOT EXACTLY SURE
ANYMORE, KID--
THIS IS ALL
GETTING TOO
COMPLICATED
FOR--

--TOP OF THE HOUR, POLICE ARE
REPORTING A BIZARRE DEATH IN
GARDEN CITY AS IMPRISONED
WIENER KING GALEN FINN
APPARENTLY--

WHAT
THE HECK
IS THAT,
MISTER
MAGNET?
SOUNDS
LIKE A
HOWLING--

THIS IS IT,
KID--WE'RE
GOING IN--

BLAM!

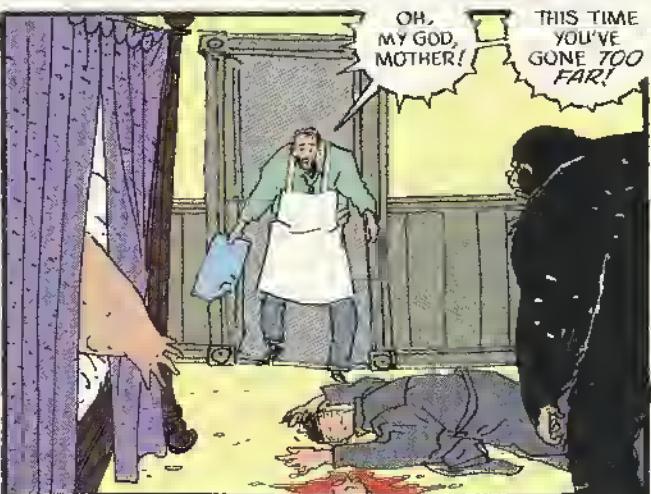
IT'S COMING FROM
THAT ROOM,
MISTER
MAGNET--

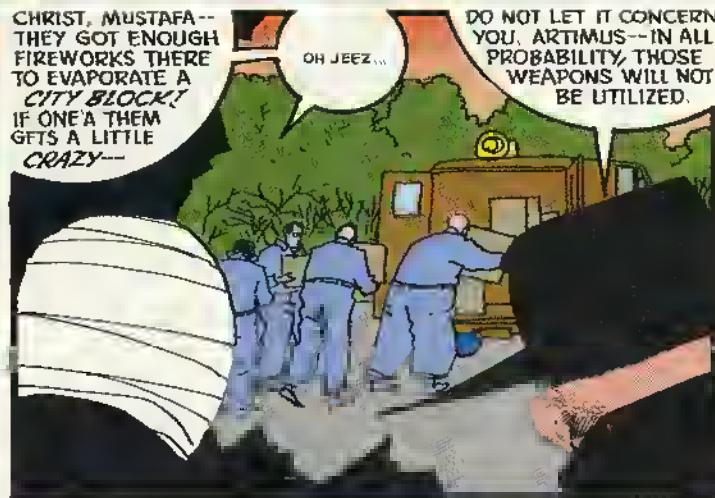
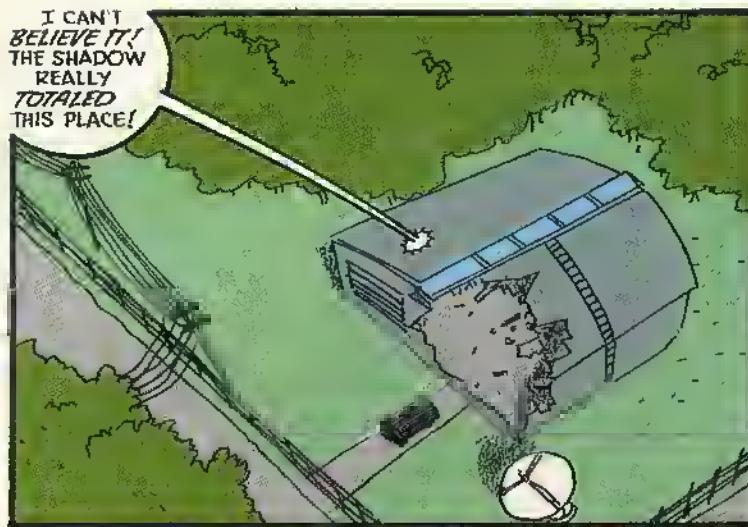
DON'T GET
COCKY, KID--
STICK
BEHIND ME--
WE CAN'T BE
SURE--

...WHAT'S
IN
THERE...

GRRRRRRRR

MMYYYY & SMAAAH BBEE





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88



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Roy & Dann Thomas
with various artists.

Available in April



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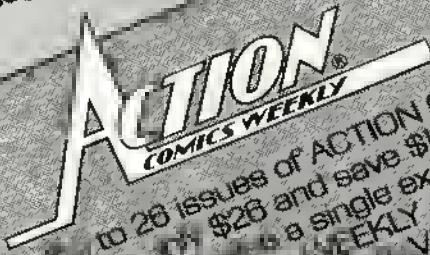
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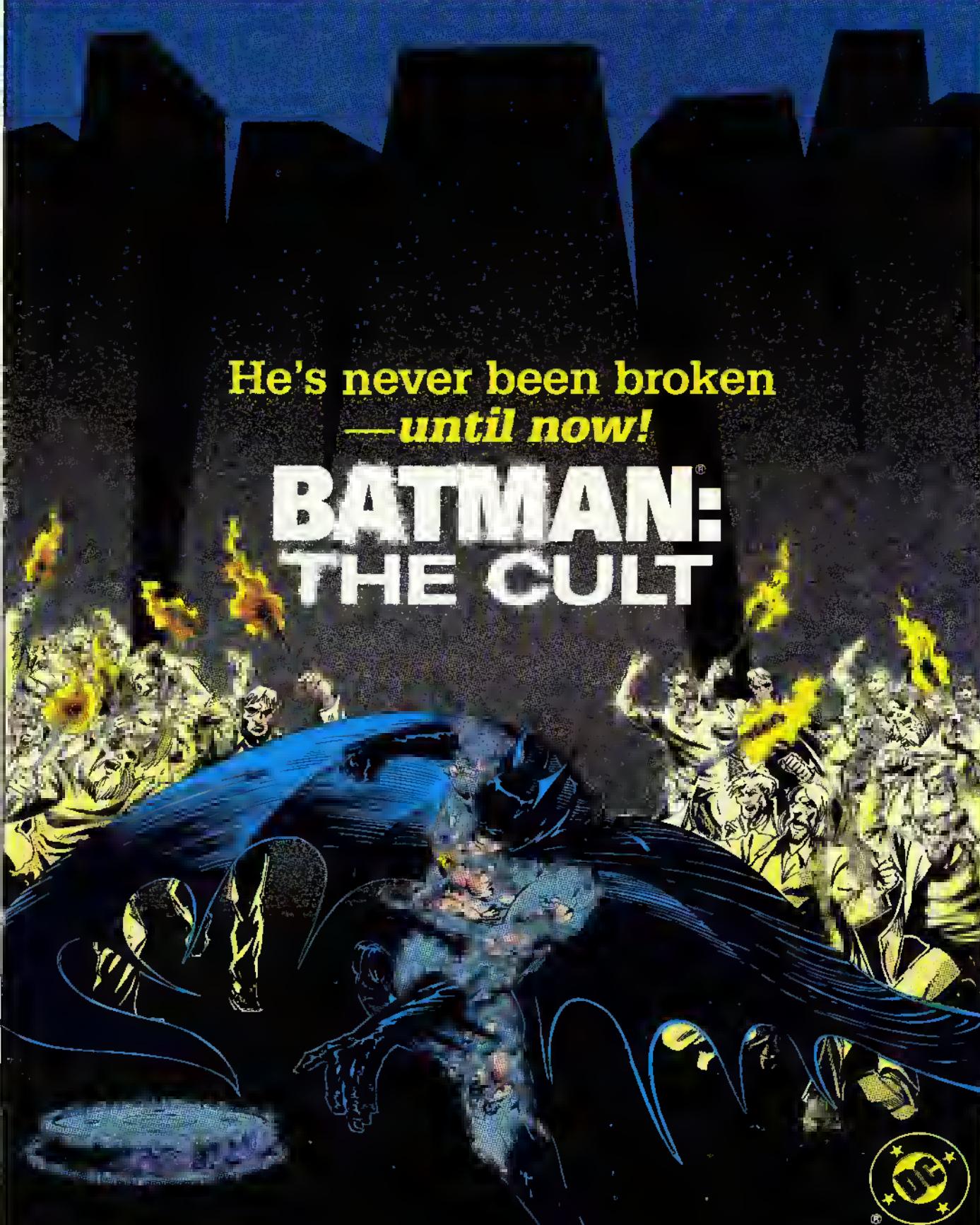
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